

AM MESSAGE: **CONTROL ISSUES 2**

For Starters ...

“SELF-CONTROL” DEFINED:

- ❖ *Self-control is having a HANDLE on yourself, keeping yourself in check, on task and DISCIPLINED.*

TWO “SELF-CONTROL” FACTS:

- ❖ **Proverbs 16:32** – *One who is self-controlled is truly STRONG!*
- ❖ **Proverbs 25:28** – *One who lacks self-control is WEAK and VULNERABLE! (Gen 4:7; Judg 13-16)*

The bad news about self-control ...

1. Self-control is in short supply in the WORLD ... and sometimes, even in the CHURCH!
 - A. *The FEAST: What we do too MUCH of*
 - B. *The FAST: What we do too LITTLE of*
2. Self-control, for many, is neither DESIRABLE, VALUABLE or NECESSARY! (2 Tim 3:1-4)
 - A. *Instead of INTERNAL control, we try to control the EXTERNALS (circumstances, consequences or effects) of our actions!*
 - B. *The sobering truth about self-control: (Mat 26:41; Rom 7:18-20; James 3:7-8)*
 - ❖ *In and of ourselves, we CANNOT be completely self-controlled! (1 Cor 9:25)*

The good news about self-control ...

3. With the Lord’s help, we CAN be self-controlled!
 - A. *His indwelling, enabling Holy Spirit PRODUCES self-control in us! (Rom 7:18; 8:5-13; Phil 4:13; 2 Tim 1:7; Gal 5:22-24)*
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4. There are steps we can take right now to grow in self-control: (2 Pet 1:5-10)
 - A. _____ – *practice the disciplines of _____!*
(1 Tim 4:7-8; 1 Cor 9:24-27)
 - B. _____ – *say “NO” to the world*
(1 Pet 2:11; 1 Thes 4:3-4; 5:22-23)
 - C. _____ – *say “YES” to the Lord*
(James 4:7-10)
 - D. *Change your attitude from “I _____” to “! _____” and, “I _____!”*

Wrap-Up: Control Questions

- ❖ Today, Jesus has all _____
(Mat 28:18; Eph 1:21)
 - 1) *Have I _____ His authority?*
 - 2) *Am I living _____ His authority? (Luke 6:46)*
- ❖ One day, Jesus will _____ control and have _____ control. (Heb 2:8; Phil 2:9-11; Rom 14:10b-12; 1 Cor 15:24-26; Rev 11:15-18)
 - 1) *Have I _____ Him control of my life?*
(Rom 12:1; 6:3-18)
 - 2) *Am I living a _____ life in Him?*